

Good News From Chardon

September 5, 2021

Issue 36

What Can We Learn from Eutychus?

We can definitely pull many lessons from the story that only occupies a few verses in Acts. Let's start with the most obvious one that many Christians seem to point to when reading this story.

Lesson One: The Dangers of Falling Asleep Spiritually

The Bible warns us to be watchful and vigilant, for Satan prowls like a lion.

1 Peter 5:8: "Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." 1 Corinthians 16:13: "Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong." We can easily point to the story of Eutychus and say, "See! He didn't pay attention in church. Instead, he dozed off and ended up dead because of his action." Perhaps people jokingly use this passage to say, "Well, this is why you shouldn't fall asleep during the pastor's sermon." But the application does have some merit. If we do not exercise discernment and vigilance, we could spiritually doze off, and run the risk of Satan, the lion, attacking.

But what else can we learn from the story?

Lesson Two: God Saw Value in Continuing Eutychus' Life

If church tradition holds up, this man simply could not stay dead for long. Eutychus made a mistake by falling asleep that night, but God decided to "put him back in the ring" anyway. I think this can offer us encouragement. How often do we fall prey to temptation and drift off spiritually? And yet, God resurrects us and puts us back on our mission.

Lesson Three: Eutychus Teaches Us about the Dangers of Burnout

Stay with me here. It was late. And if any of you can remember those late-night classes in college, you may be able to relate. He'd probably come from a hard day's work. Perhaps he was a fisherman or worked at the famous ports of the town—or had another job. Paul was droning on and on and on, and Eutychus just simply couldn't stay awake for one more commitment. Perhaps you feel the same way, stretched so thin, that you go through the motions when you get to a church sermon or small group. God calls us to rest and Sabbath so that we can do our work here on earth diligently, both missionally and in the workplace itself.

Lesson Four: Eutychus' Youth Shouldn't Be Lost on Readers

Some of our older readers might complain, "He's full of youth, why on earth was he falling asleep?" But I think there are some important lessons to pull from Eutychus' youth itself. How many of us, in our younger days, succumbed to the rat race? Felt we had to push ourselves beyond our limits to get ahead in the workplace? We do have to bear in mind that Eutychus came from a collectivist culture, so they wouldn't have exactly had the same industrious mindset that you may see in Western societies today. But even in ancient works of literature, we see how youthful energy, boldness, and gumption can sometimes goeth ... before a fall. I often think of the Iliad (since Troas resided so close to Troy) and how Achilles' brashness led to his downfall. Or how Alexander the Great, too, died at such a young age in his 30s. Youth can do so much for Christ's kingdom, but they also need the proper guidance of a seasoned mentor.

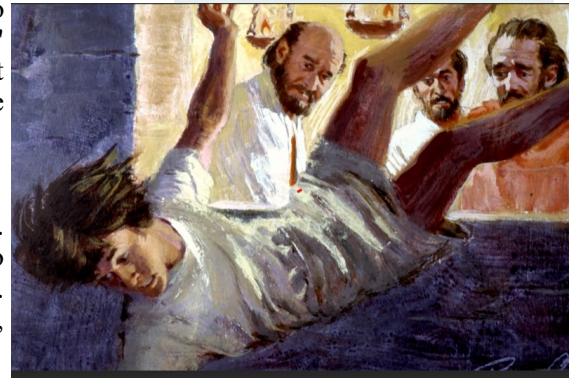
Why Did Luke include This Story in Acts? We can point to a number of reasons why Luke would include this story in Acts—and no, it probably wasn't a dig at Paul for his long, not-so-exciting sermons. First, the story shows God's love and power. It can overcome even death from falling from several stories. Secondly, the story shows us the importance of priorities, especially in our youth. As Christians, we don't have to have it all. God wants us to work hard, but he also wants us to rest—and not rest near a window during a sermon delivery from the Apostle Paul. Finally, the story is an excellent example of the Gospel in action. People fall prey to Satan's schemes and fall asleep to their death spiritually. But God has the ability to bring us back to life in Him so that we can fulfill our mission on earth to help bring others back to life. Eutychus goes on to continue to spread the Gospel because God gave him a second chance. Just like he does for us time and time again.

Church of Christ

128 Maple Ave.

Chardon, OH 44024

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Schedule of Services:

Greeting: Tom

Song Leader: Dale

Opening Hymn:

59—Holy, Holy, Holy

Opening Prayer: Ray

Hymn:

111—Yield Not To

Temptation

Scripture Reading: Larry

1 Corinthians 16:13-20

Hymn:

301—He Loved Me So

Lord's Supper: Tom

Hymn:

77—Hallelujah, Praise

Jehovah

Sermon: Tom

Invitation Hymn:

644—Trust and Obey

Closing Hymn:

98—I Surrender All

Closing Prayer: Jared

PRAYER LIST

- *Tom and Nina’s friend and his wife Brenda.
- *Bonnie and her family .
- *Margaret and Albert.
- *Wanda and her family.
- *Kathy, her sister is looking for a place when she finishes rehab.
- *Zarna’s family and friends
- *Larry and Ruth.
- *Pat and Ron and their family.
- *Juanita’s sister Betty and the rest of her family.
- *Mary and her family.
- *Robert and Sara and their children.
- *Ray and Barbara and their family.
- *Dale and his family.
- *Ray, Rebecca, and Steven.
- *Myron & Carole and their family.
- *Mark and his family. .
- *Our congregation



- Sept 3—Business Meeting
7 pm on Zoom
- Sept. 4—(b.) Austin
- Sept. 5—Worship 11 am.
Speaker: Tom
- Sept. 5—Bible Study 6pm
on-line with Dale
- Sept. 5—(b.) David
- Sept. 6—(b.) Zarna
- Sept. 12—Worship 11 am.
Speaker: Tom
- Sept. 12—Bible Study
6pm
on-line with Dale
- Sept. 16—(b.) Susan

Greetings

1 Corinthians 16:13-20

About	Achaia	Aquila	Brave
Brethren	church	coming	devoted
Everyone	faith	Farewell	firstfruits
Fortunatus	greet	heartily	house
Labors	lacking	Saints	Solemn
Spirit	Stand	strong	submit
Watch	works		

W G R E E G T G S S Y A E T F
 O O N E N A C N T O L Q S I I
 F N R O O H T I N L I U U R R
 H O R K U E R M I E T I O I S
 W T R R S G I O A M R L H P T
 S D C T R T H C S N A A A S F
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 D T B C T K A I E S S A H T I
 T E T O L S H T B R V Q P I T
 E A V E R S C B U E H T T A S
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 T I M B U S D L A C K I N G B

Hidden Message: _____

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**People say nothing is impossible, but I do
 nothing every day.**

A.A. Milne

SUNDAY: Worship — 11:00 am; Bible Study — 6:00 pm (on Zoom)

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Pod Cast: Chardon.podbean.com

Follow us on FaceBook



Answer to Puzzle: Greet one
 another with a holy kiss.